

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1961 at 11:15 AM EST

STATEMENT BY ALLEN W. DULLES

I am returning to the practice of the law and will be "of counsel" to the firm of Sullivan and Cromwell of New York City. I had been a member of this firm for many years before joining the Central Intelligence Agency in November 1950.

This arrangement will permit me to devote time to writing and speaking on the issues of the day in the field of foreign affairs and particularly on the problems posed by the communist threat.

At the request of the President and of Mr. John A. McCone, I will make myself available as a consultant to my successor as he may wish.

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NATIONAL SECURITY MEDAL

The National Security Medal, established by President Truman on January 19, 1953, by Executive Order No. 10431, may be awarded, under the terms of that Order, to "any person, without regard to nationality, including members of the armed forces of the United States, for distinguished achievement or outstanding contribution on or after July 26, 1947, in the field of intelligence relating to the national security." According to further regulations issued by the President, also on January 19, 1953, such a contribution "may consist of either exceptionally meritorious service performed in a position of high responsibility or of an act of valor requiring personal courage of a high degree and complete disregard of personal safety."

This decoration "shall be awarded by the President of the United States or, under the regulations approved by him, by such person or persons as he may designate," so the Executive Order outlined. One of the awarding officials so designated is the Director of Central Intelligence.

The design of the National Security Medal, approved by the Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, is described as follows:

A blue enameled compass rose surrounded by a red enamelled oval, the interior dimensions of which are 1 inch vertically and 7/8 inch horizontally, bearing the inscription "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" at the top and "NATIONAL SECURITY" at the bottom, the whole enclosed within a laurel wreath of gold-finished bronze surmounted by an American bald eagle standing with wings raised. On the reverse a serial number appears on the eagle and the words "PRESENTED TO" are impressed on the compass rose. The name of the recipient is engraved below. The medal is suspended by a loop from a silk moire ribbon 2 inches in length and 1 3/8 inches in width, composed of a band of dark blue (1/4-inch), gold (3/32-inch), dark blue (11/16-inch), gold (3/32-inch), dark blue (1/4-inch). Diagonal gold lines (3/32 inch in width and 3/32 inch apart) extend downward from the wearer's right to left across the center band of dark blue. The miniature of this medal is furnished at the time of the award.

Among those who have received the National Security Medal are the following:

General Walter Bedell Smith, former Director of Central Intelligence, January 1953

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation, May 1955

Mr. William F. Friedman, cryptanalyst, Armed Forces Security Agency, October 1955

Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan, former Director, Office of Strategic Services, April 1957.

Mr. Robert D. Murphy, former Under Secretary of State, December 1960

IMMEDIATE RELEASE, NOVEMBER 28, 1961

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE MEDAL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES
OF ALLEN W. DULLES
AT THE CIA BUILDING IN LANGLEY, VA.

Mr. Dulles, Mr. McCone, General Cabell, Members of the Central Intelligence Agency:

I want, first of all, to express my appreciation to you all for the opportunity that this ceremony gives to tell you how grateful we are in the government and in the country for the services that the personnel of this Agency render to the country.

It is not always easy. Your successes are unheralded -- your failures are trumpeted. I sometimes have that feeling myself. But I am sure you realize how important is your work, how essential it is -- and how in the long sweep of history how significant your efforts will be judged.

So I do want to express my appreciation to you now, and I am confident that in the future you will continue to merit the appreciation of our country, as you have in the past.

I am also particularly grateful because this ceremony gives us all an opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant. Allen Dulles' career as a citizen of this country -- and as you know who has made his vast personal resources available to the country -- stretches all the way back to the administration of Woodrow Wilson. I know of no other American in the history of this country who has served in seven administrations of seven Presidents -- varying from party to party, from point of view to point of view, from problem to problem, and yet at the end of each administration each President of the United States has paid tribute to his service -- and also has counted Allen Dulles as their friend.

This is an extraordinary record, and I know that all of you who have worked with him understand why this record has been made. I regard Allen Dulles as an almost unique figure in the country. I know of no man who brings a greater sense of personal commitment to his work -- who has less pride in office -- than he has. And therefore I was most gratified when we were permitted today to come out to the Agency to present this award to him in your presence.